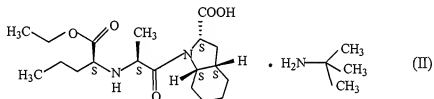


**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) A selective process for preparation of crystalline perindopril erbumine of formula (II),



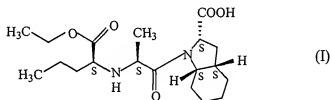
exhibiting the following X-ray (powder) diffraction pattern,

| <i>d-spacing</i><br>(Å) | <i>Angle</i><br>( $2\theta$ ) | <i>Relative Intensity</i><br>(%) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 10.239                  | 8.628                         | 1.16                             |
| 8.886                   | 9.945                         | 49.45                            |
| 7.453                   | 11.863                        | 10.26                            |
| 6.054                   | 14.618                        | 3.35                             |
| 5.716                   | 15.487                        | 14.10                            |
| 5.435                   | 16.294                        | 33.06                            |
| 5.082                   | 17.434                        | 100.00                           |
| 4.844                   | 18.296                        | 14.06                            |
| 4.661                   | 19.023                        | 5.88                             |
| 4.278                   | 20.744                        | 8.50                             |
| 4.116                   | 21.570                        | 17.02                            |
| 3.869                   | 22.965                        | 36.43                            |
| 3.565                   | 24.950                        | 11.58                            |
| 3.337                   | 26.690                        | 6.65                             |
| 3.125                   | 28.531                        | 11.60                            |
| 2.993                   | 29.823                        | 3.93                             |

|       |        |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| 2.778 | 32.194 | 4.65 |
| 2.718 | 32.918 | 4.19 |
| 2.619 | 34.196 | 3.28 |
| 2.551 | 35.140 | 2.52 |
| 2.482 | 36.151 | 1.83 |
| 2.391 | 37.578 | 1.77 |
| 2.245 | 40.129 | 0.69 |
| 2.077 | 43.534 | 0.94 |

comprising,

reaction of a solution of perindopril of formula (I),



in a solvent selected from N,N-dimethylformamide, dimethyl acetals of lower aliphatic aldehydes, dimethyl ketals of lower aliphatic ketones and 1, 2-dialkoxyethane with tertiary butylamine and crystallization of the erbumine salt thus obtained by heating the reaction mixture to reflux, filtering hot, cooling gradually to 20°C to 30°C, and further cooling to 0° C to 15° C for 30 minutes to 1 hour and finally filtering off and drying the crystals.

2. (Currently amended) A process according to Claim1, wherein the dimethyl acetals of lower aliphatic aldehydes and ketals of lower aliphatic ketones is selected from dimethoxymethane, 1,1-dimethoxyethane and 2,2-dimethoxypropane.

3. (Previously presented) A process according to Claim 1, wherein the 1,2-dialkoxyethane is selected from 1,2-dimethoxyethane and 1,2-diethoxyethane.